

POPPO

10¢

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of the **POPCORN** THEATRE

VOL. I, NO. 2

JUMP ON
QUICK, SNAPPY—
ONE MORE WILL
DO IT!



CHARLES
BIRO



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM



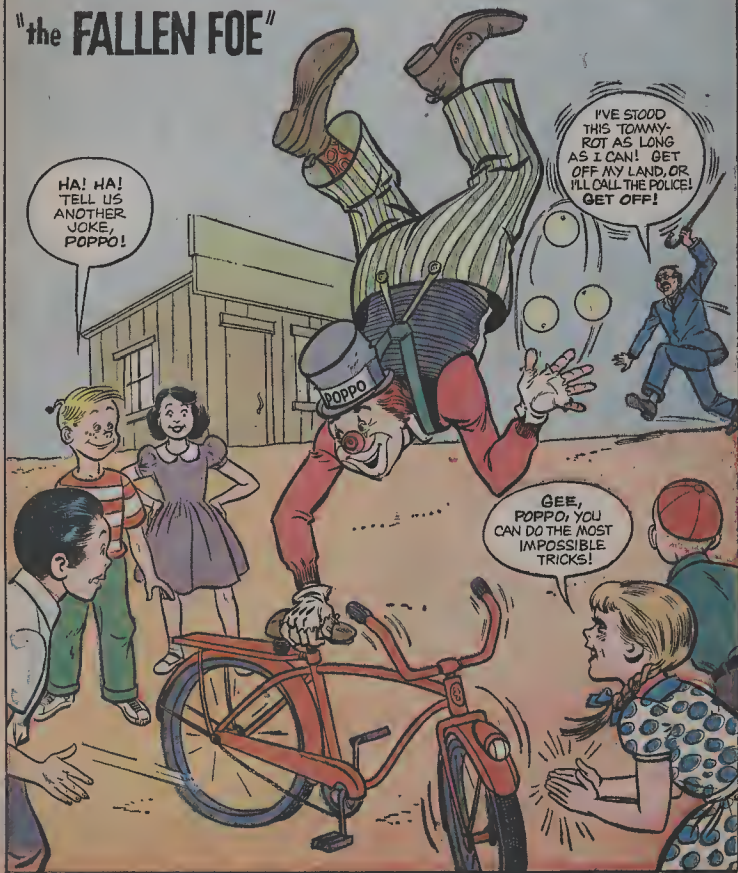
POPPO

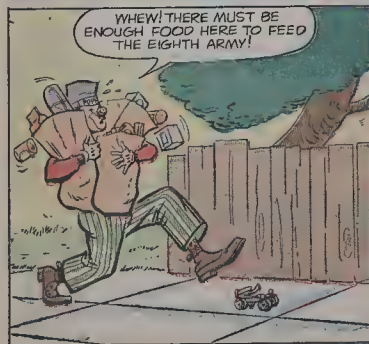
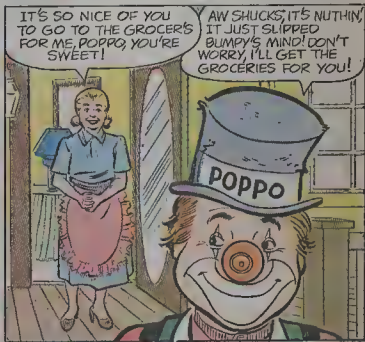
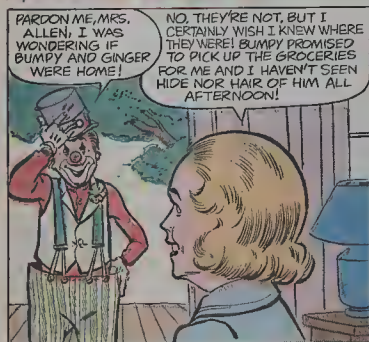
-THE CLOWN - WHO "CAN'T HELP LIKING KIDS", HAS TRAVELED THE WORLD OVER PHOTOGRAPHING HIS ADVENTURES - THE GREAT ACTS THAT PLAYED ON THE SAME BILL - AND COLLECTING PRINTS OF THE CARTOONS AND COMEDIES THAT HE ENJOYED. BORN TO THE CIRCUS, AND THE JOY OF MAKING OTHERS LAUGH, HIDING HIS OWN SORROWS SO OTHERS MAY BE HAPPY, HE IS THE CLOWN OF ALL AGES - FOR ALL AGES. NOW HE HAS RETIRED FROM THE CIRCUS, BUT STILL FINDS HIS REWARDS IN LIFE MAKING OTHERS LAUGH.

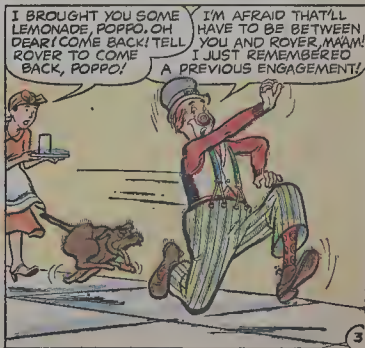


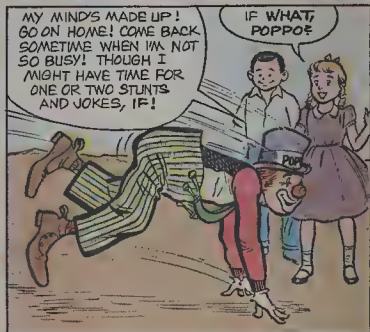
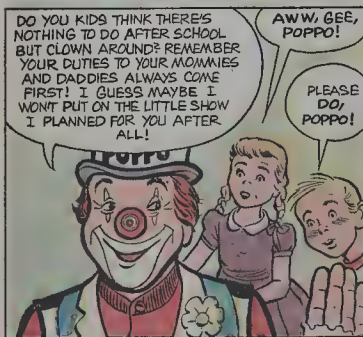
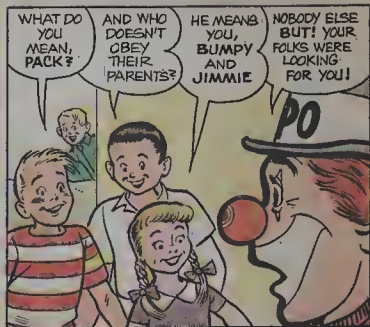
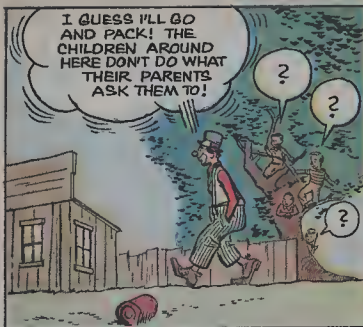
POPPO the CLOWN

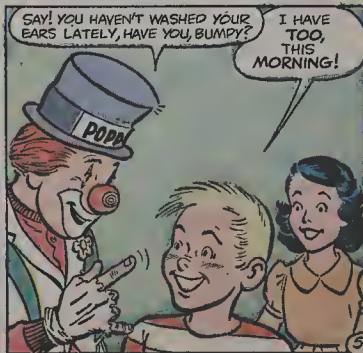
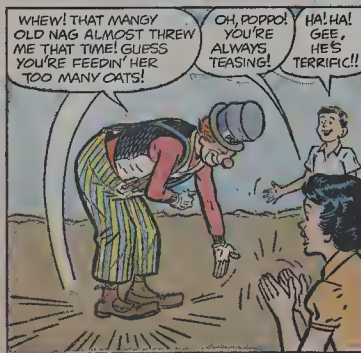
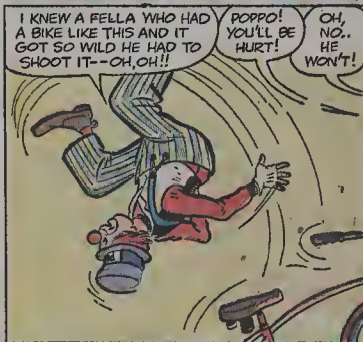
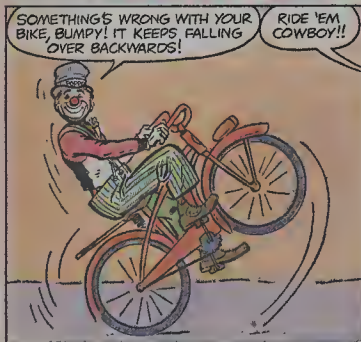
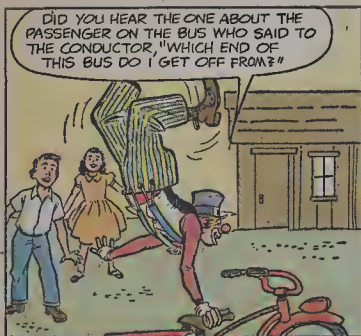
"the FALLEN FOE"

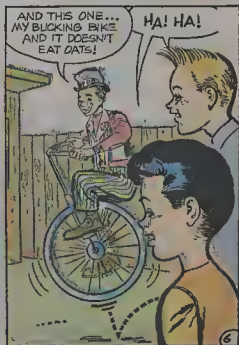
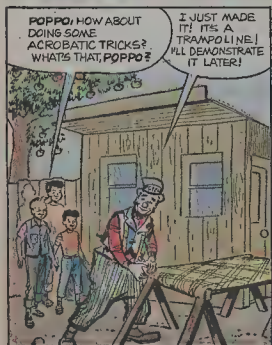
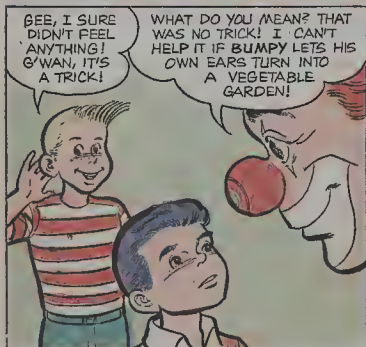
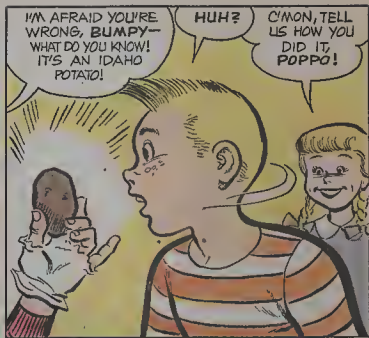
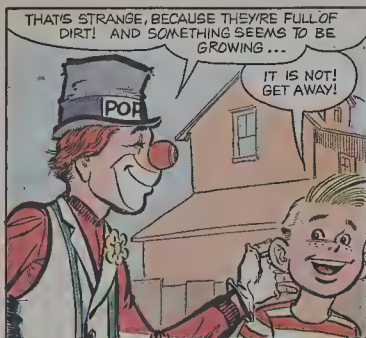


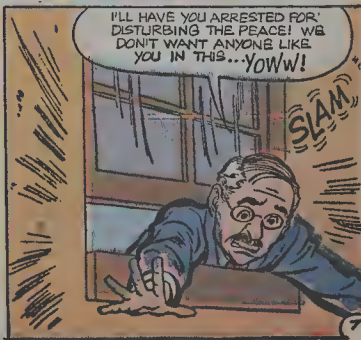
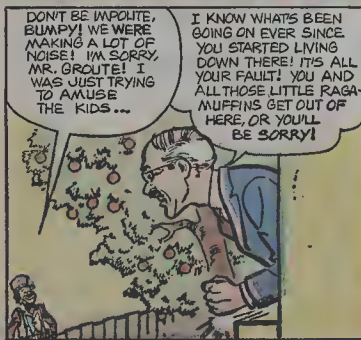
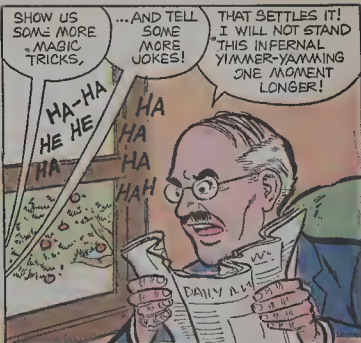
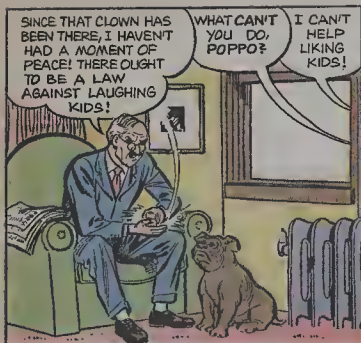


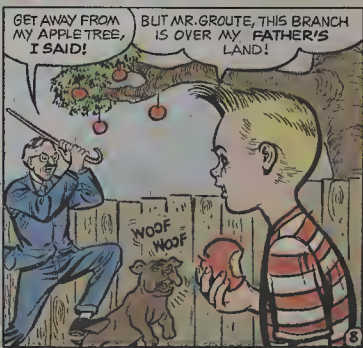
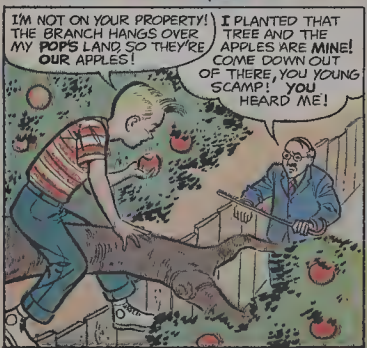
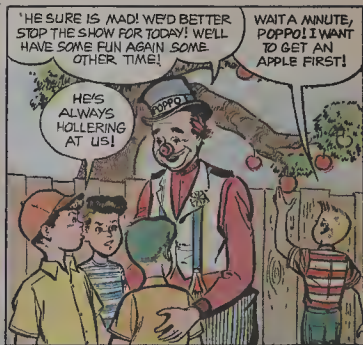
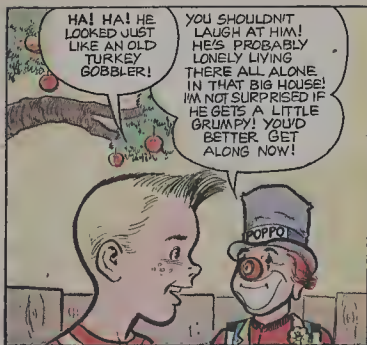


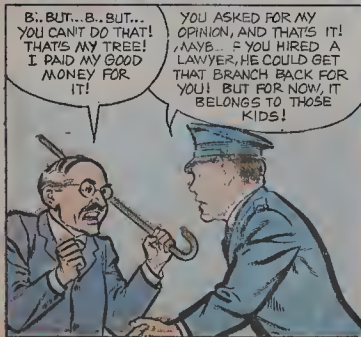
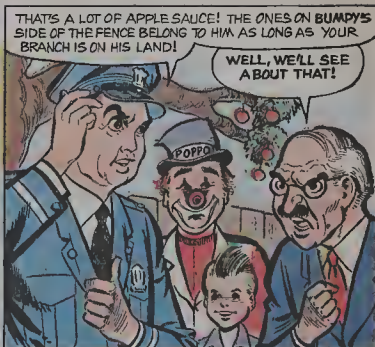
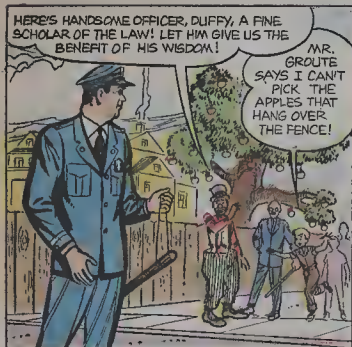


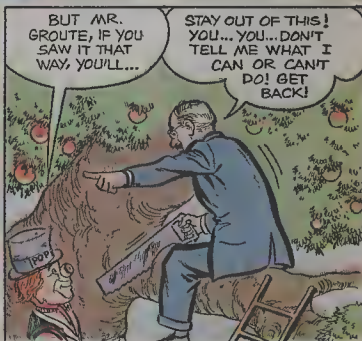
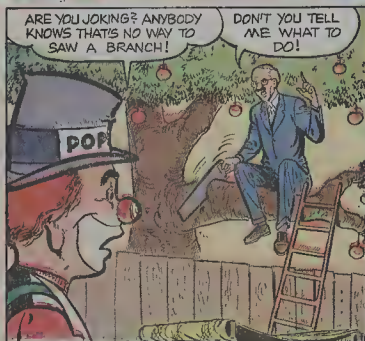
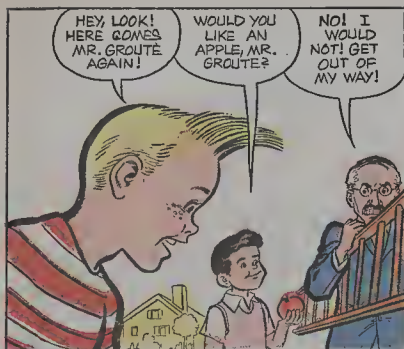


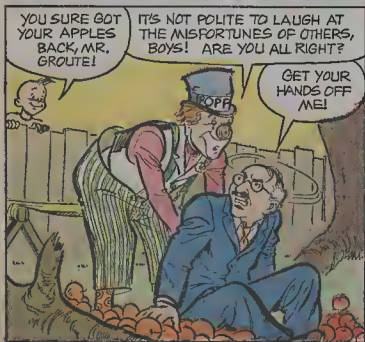
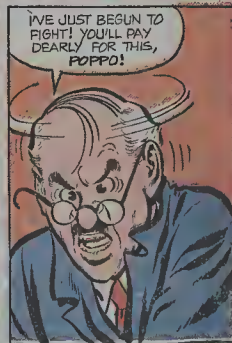
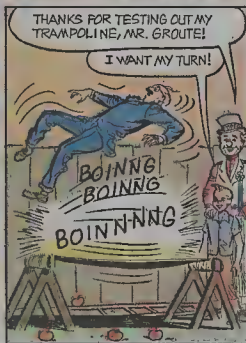
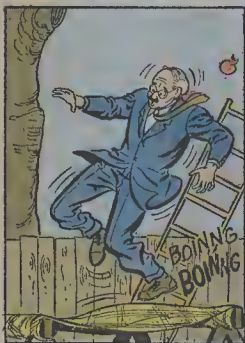
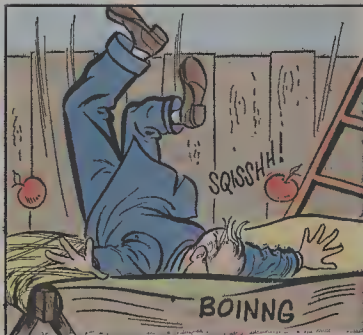
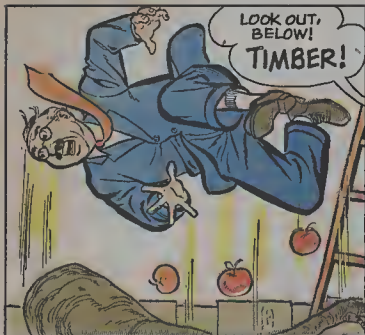




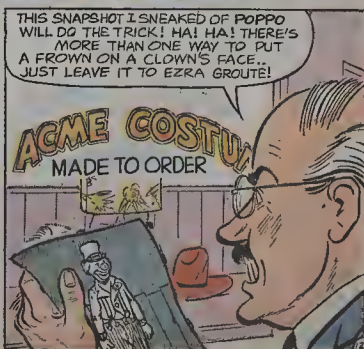
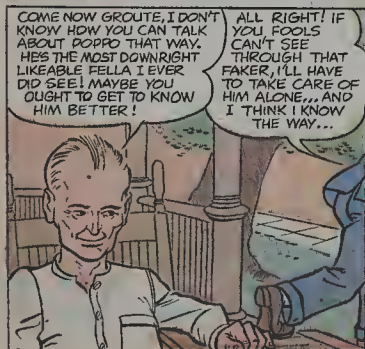
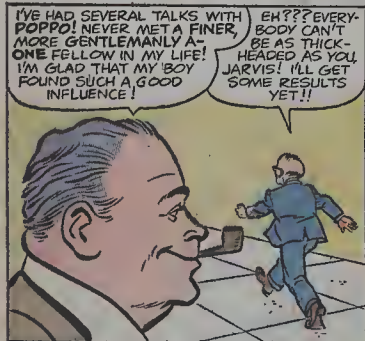
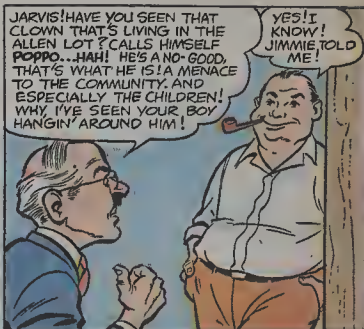
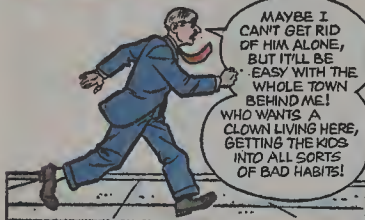


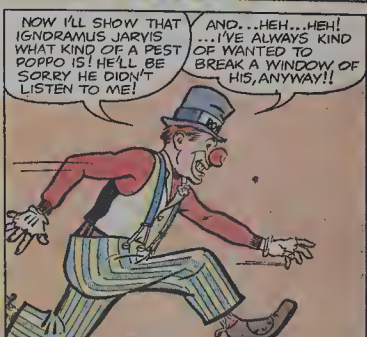


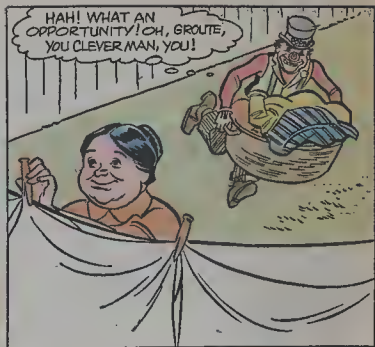
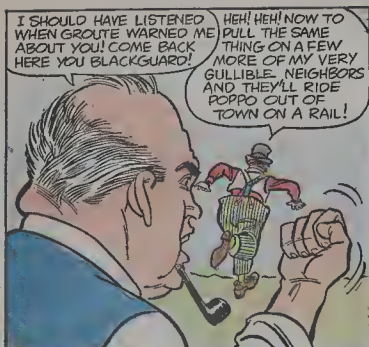


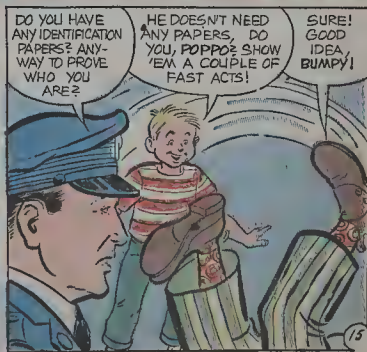
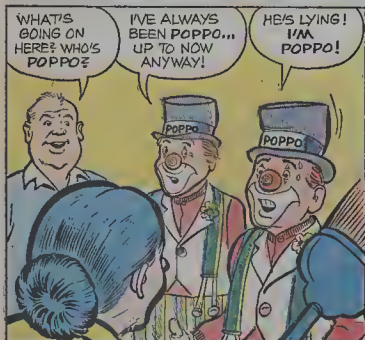
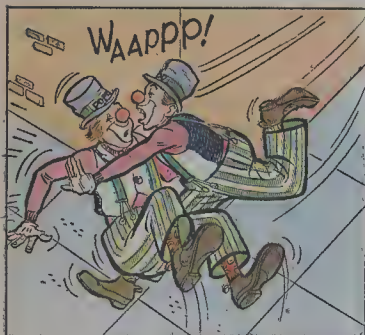


POPPO 'SOUL GROUTE'









IT WAS THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, AND THE
TEACHER WAS ASKING FOR EVERYONE'S NAME!
WHEN SHE GOT TO THE LITTLE BOY IN THE LAST
ROW, HE SAID HIS NAME WAS
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE!



"MY," SHE SAYS,
"THAT'S CERTAINLY
A WELL-KNOWN
NAME!"

"IT OUGHTA BE," HE
SAYS, "I'VE BEEN
LIVING IN THIS
NEIGHBORHOOD
FOR TEN YEARS!"



NOW, LOOK HERE! THAT DOESN'T
PROVE
ANYTHING...
GET
AWAY!

THANKS FOR
THE LIFT!
WHOEVER YOU
ARE!



AND DID YOU HEAR THE ONE ABOUT THE ANGRY
MAN IN A RESTAURANT WHO ASKED THE
WAITER "WHAT DID YOU SERVE ME-COFFEE
OR TEA? IT TASTES LIKE KEROSENE!"



"THAT MUST BE THE COFFEE,"
THE WAITER SAID, "THE
TEA TASTES LIKE
TURPENTINE!"

HA! HA! THAT
POPPO IS ALL RIGHT!
NOBODY KNOWS AS
MANY CORNY JOKES AS
HE DOES!

WE KIDS
THINK
THEY'RE
GREAT!

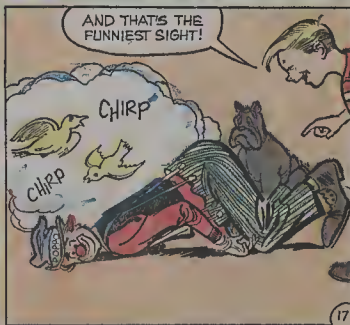
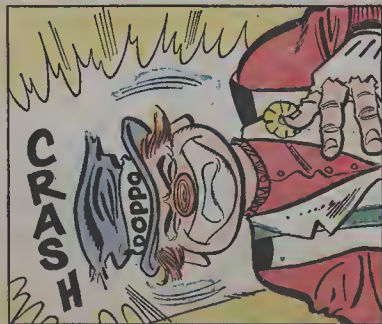
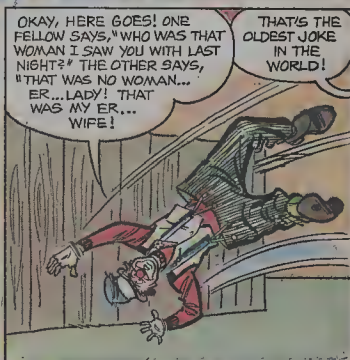
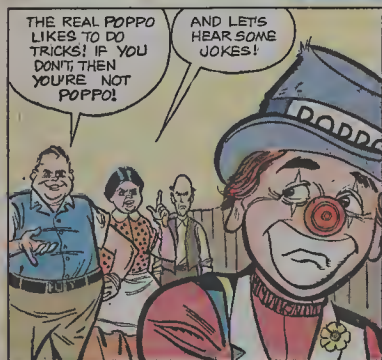
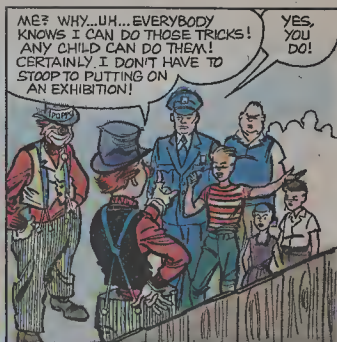


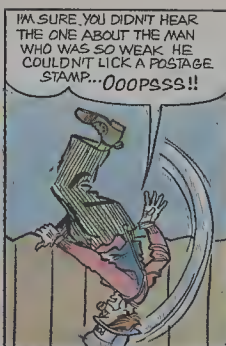
NOW, HOW
ABOUT A
RIDDLE?

NO! THAT'S
ENOUGH!

THE
FOOL...





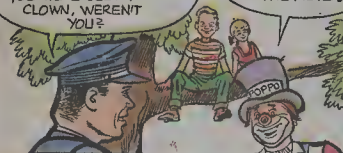


POPPO

**OUT
BUT NOT
DOWN //**

HE SURE HAD ME FOOLED
FOR A WHILE, THERE! SAY,
HOW DID YOU LEARN ALL
THOSE TRICKS, POPPO?
YOU WERE JUST A
CLOWN, WEREN'T
YOU?

YES, BUT I LOVED
THE CIRCUS SO
MUCH THAT I
LEARNED ALL
THE ACTS!



I LEARNED MAGIC
TRICKS, FIRE EATING,
SWORDS SWALLOWING,
WEIGHT LIFTING
ACROBATICS...THE
WORKS! THEY'RE
EASY WHEN YOU
KNOW HOW!

WHEW! THAT'S THE
KIND OF EDUCATION I'D
LIKE TO GET! IT
SURE BEATS
ANYTHING
I GET IN
SCHOOL!

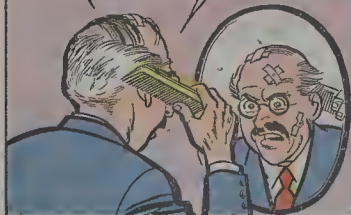
WELL,
WE CAN'T
ALL BE
CLOWNS!



LATER...

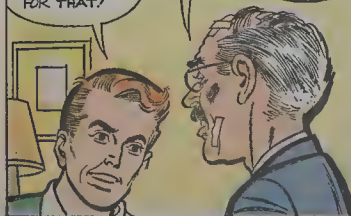
OUCH!
IT SURE
IS HARD TO COMB
MY HAIR WITH ALL
THESE LUMPS
ON MY HEAD!

THERE'S ONLY ONE
SURE WAY TO GET RID
OF POPPO! IT'LL COST
ME SOME MONEY, BUT
IT'LL BE WORTH IT!
I'LL GO SEE BUMPY'S
FATHER!



\$500, IT'S TOO
SMALL TO BUILD
ON, SO I'VE
NEVER DONE
ANYTHING
WITH IT! SURE,
I'D LET IT GO
FOR THAT!

ALL RIGHT, IT'S A DEAL! I
NEED...UH...A LITTLE MORE
LAND, AND AS LONG AS
YOU'RE NOT USING IT
ANYWAY...HOW ABOUT THE
DEED AND REGISTRATION?



HELLO, MR. GROUTE!
DID YOU HAVE
AN ACCIDENT?

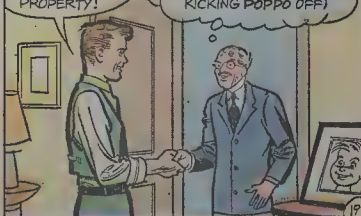
ER...I TRIPPED DOWN THE
STAIRS! I'D LIKE TO TALK TO
YOU ABOUT THAT. LOT YOU
OWN NEXT TO MY HOUSE, MR.
ALLEN! I WANT TO BUY IT!
HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT
FOR IT?

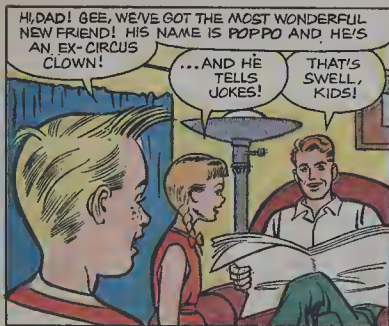


I'LL HAVE THE
PAPERS DRAWN
UP AT ONCE!
GOOD LUCK WITH
IT! I NEVER
EXPECTED TO
SELL THAT
PROPERTY!

IT'S A PLEASURE TO DO
BUSINESS WITH YOU, MR.
ALLEN!

AND MY FIRST
BUSINESS WILL BE
KICKING POPPO OFF!





HI, DAD! GEE, WE'VE GOT THE MOST WONDERFUL NEW FRIEND! HIS NAME IS POPPO AND HE'S AN EX-CIRCUS CLOWN!

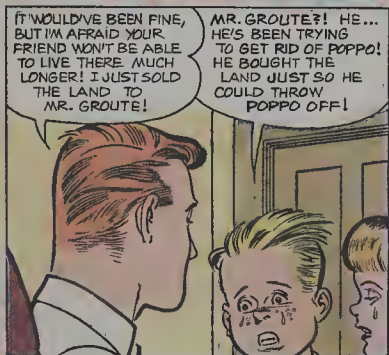
...AND HE TELLS JOKES!

THAT'S SWELL, KIDS!



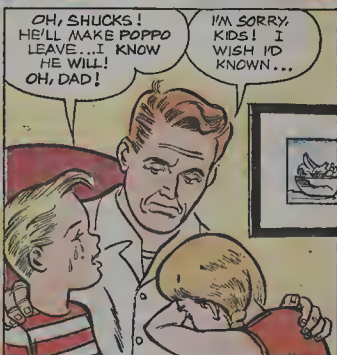
AND HE CAN DO WONDERFUL MAGIC TRICKS! HE'S AN ACROBAT TOO...AND EVERYTHING!

...AND GUESS WHAT? HE'S LIVING RIGHT ON YOUR LAND... NEXT DOOR TO GROUCHY MR. GROUTE! WE LET HIM, IS IT ALL RIGHT?



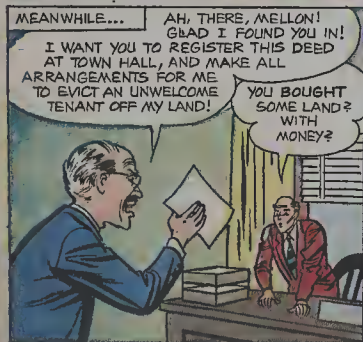
IT WOULD'VE BEEN FINE, BUT I'M AFRAID YOUR FRIEND WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE THERE MUCH LONGER! I JUST SOLD THE LAND TO MR. GROUTE!

MR. GROUTE?! HE... HE'S BEEN TRYING TO GET RID OF POPPO! HE BOUGHT THE LAND JUST SO HE COULD THROW POPPO OFF!



OH, SHUCKS! HE'LL MAKE POPPO LEAVE...I KNOW HE WILL! OH, DAD!

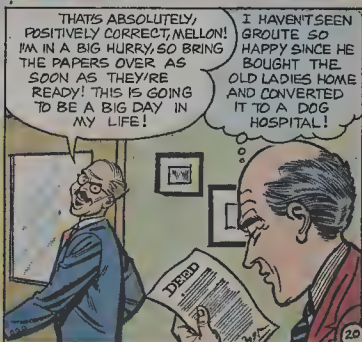
I'M SORRY, KIDS! I WISH I'D KNOWN...



MEANWHILE...

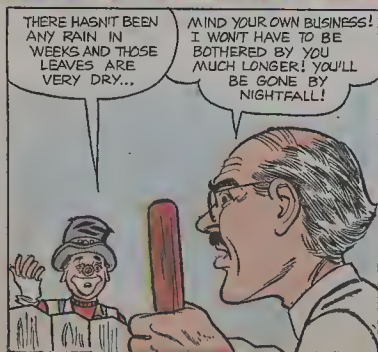
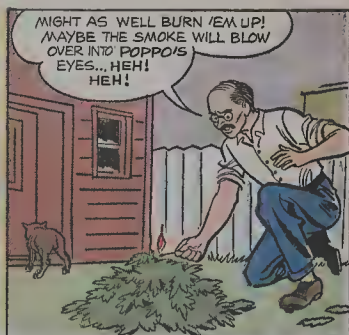
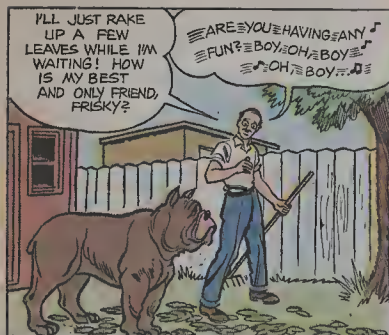
AH, THERE, MELLON! GLAD I FOUND YOU IN! I WANT YOU TO REGISTER THIS DEED AT TOWN HALL, AND MAKE ALL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ME TO EVICT AN UNWELCOME TENANT OFF MY LAND!

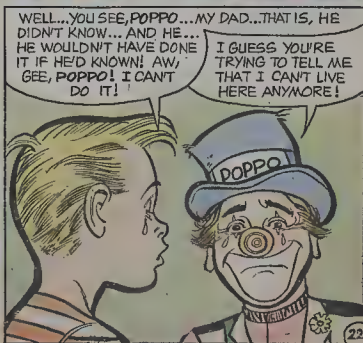
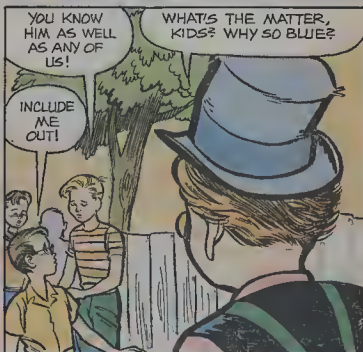
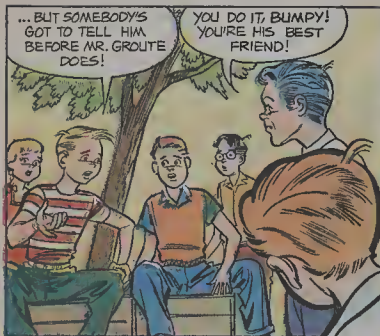
YOU BOUGHT SOME LAND? WITH MONEY?

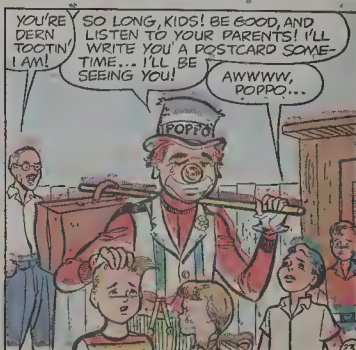
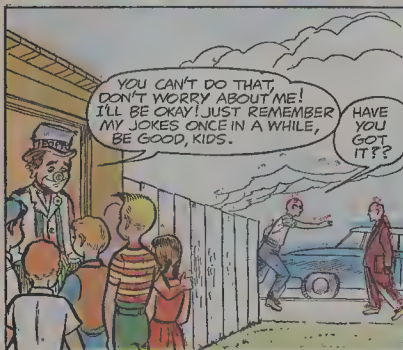
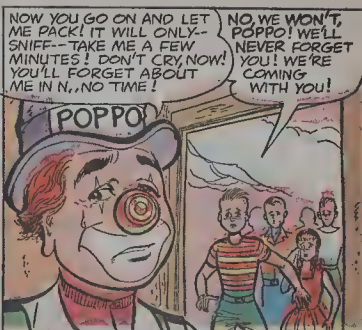


THAT'S ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY CORRECT, MELLON! I'M IN A BIG HURRY, SO BRING THE PAPERS OVER AS SOON AS THEY'RE READY! THIS IS GOING TO BE A BIG DAY IN MY LIFE!

I HAVEN'T SEEN GROUTE SO HAPPY SINCE HE BOUGHT THE OLD LADIES HOME AND CONVERTED IT TO A DOG HOSPITAL!

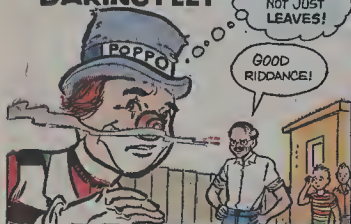






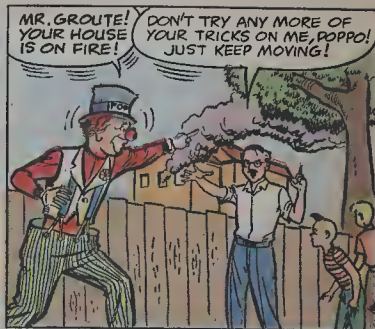
POPPO

"DARING FEET"



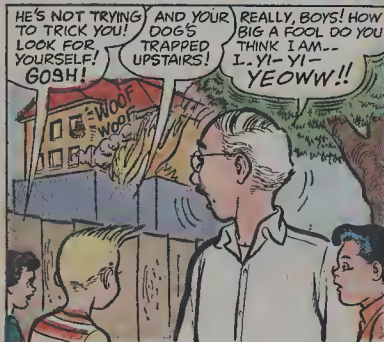
I'D BETTER NOT LOOK BACK, OR I'LL START CRYING... WHAT'S THAT BURNING? THAT'S NOT JUST LEAVES!

GOOD RIDDANCE!



MR. GROUTE! YOUR HOUSE IS ON FIRE!

DON'T TRY ANY MORE OF YOUR TRICKS ON ME, POPPO! JUST KEEP MOVING!



HE'S NOT TRYING TO TRICK YOU! LOOK FOR YOURSELF! GOSH!

AND YOUR DOG'S TRAPPED UPSTAIRS!

REALLY, BOYS! HOW BIG A FOOL DO YOU THINK I AM-- L. YI- YI- YEOWN!!



WOOF! WOOF!

JUMP FRISKY! JUMP!

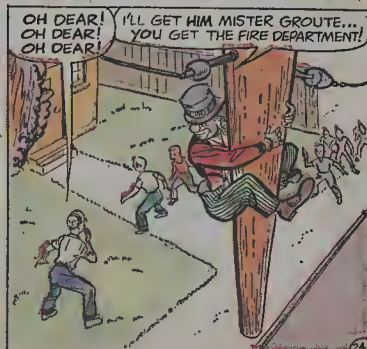
HE WON'T JUMP!



DO SOMETHING! SAVE HIM! CALL THE POLICE! CALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT! MY POOR LITTLE FRISKY! SAVE HIM, SOMEBODY! HELP ME! FIRE! HELP!

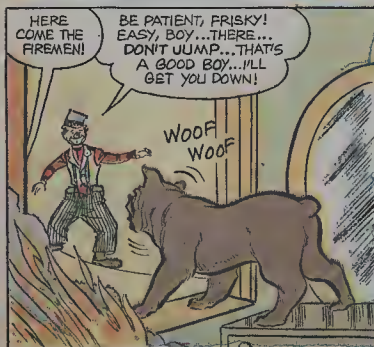
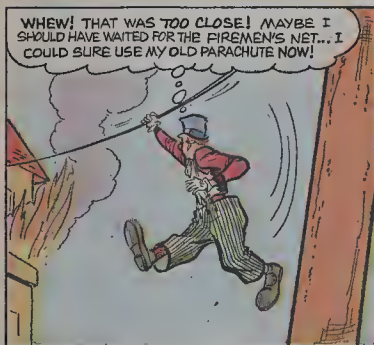
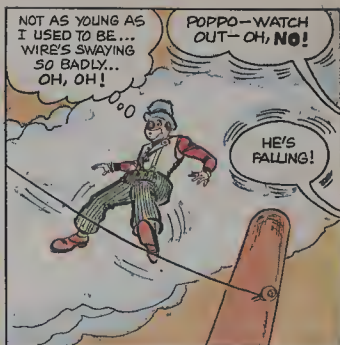
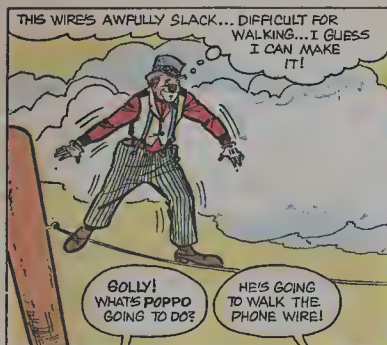
GOSH! HE LOVES THAT DOG MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WHOLE WORLD!

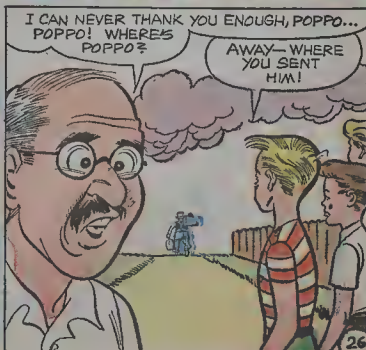
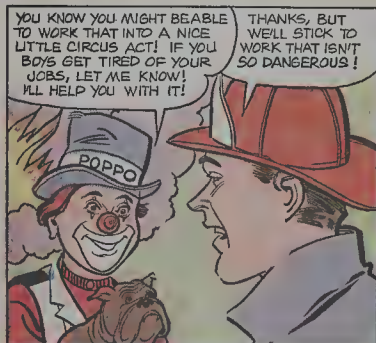
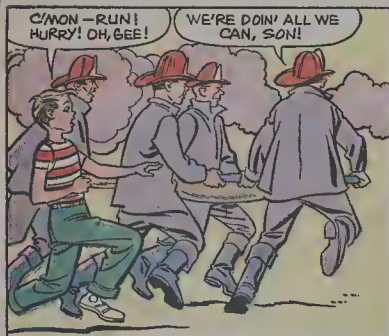
WHY SHOULDN'T HE? IT'S THE ONLY FRIEND HE'S GOT!

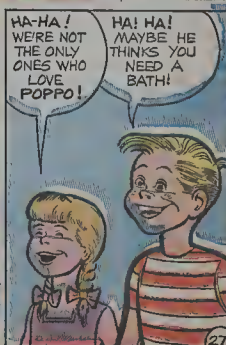
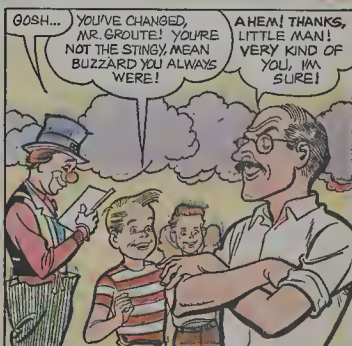
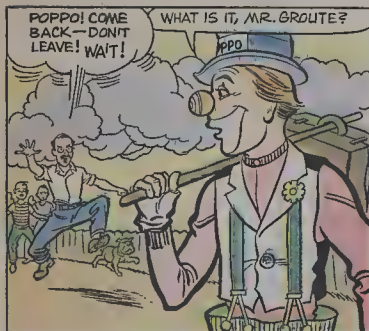


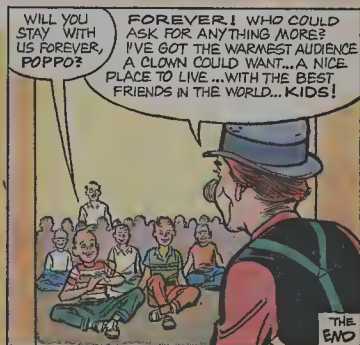
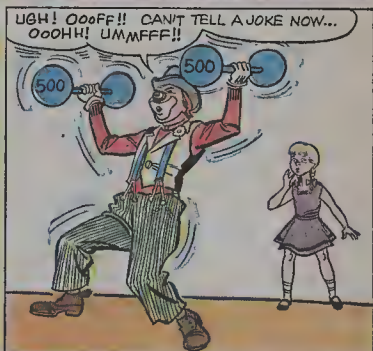
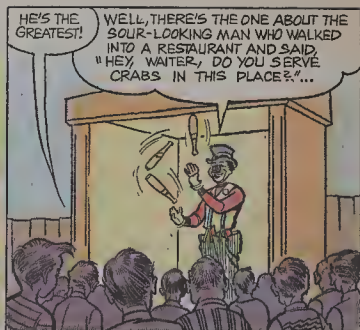
OH DEAR! OH DEAR! OH DEAR!

I'LL GET HIM MISTER GROUTE... YOU GET THE FIRE DEPARTMENT!









TENT TALK

LITTLE BIG TOP

A resident of Little Rock, Arkansas, spent five years of his spare time making a miniature circus six feet long and three feet wide. He even made thousands of tiny folding seats for the main tent. The completed model contained 17 wagons, 13 parade floats, 30 performers, 21 pieces of aerial equipment, five tents, twenty flags, twenty-five animals and six huge banners for the midway.



A GOOD TURN

One of the greatest tightrope walkers of all time was Charles Blondin (1824-1897). His outstanding trick, perfected during an engagement at the Crystal Palace in London in 1861, was to turn somersaults on stilts on a rope 170 feet above the ground.



POLITICAL FUNNYMAN

The most famous circus clown in American history was Don Rice (1822-1900). Besides being a friend of the eminent men of his time, Rice made and lost several fortunes, ran for Congress and was even considered as a Presidential candidate. During the Civil War, he was paid \$1,000 a week, or twice as much as Abraham Lincoln.



LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP

A triple somersault from a springboard is one of the most dangerous circus tricks and one rarely performed successfully. It is believed that after the third revolution a person loses sense of direction and location and consequently is unable to land correctly. An American performer in the middle of the 19th century frequently did a double somersault over 18 horses, but after one attempt at the triple refused to try it again.



POPPO'S

TENTFUL of TRICKS

NUMBER
1

OKAY, KIDS!
FIRST I'M GOING
TO SHOW YOU HOW
TO POUR SODA AND
WATER INTO THE
SAME GLASS, WITHOUT
THEIR GETTING
MIXED UP
TOGETHER!

FILL THE GLASS HALF FULL OF SODA. THEN PUT A SILK
HANDKERCHIEF OVER THE GLASS, AND PRESS IT DOWN TO
THE SURFACE OF THE SODA. GENTLY FILL THE GLASS WITH
WATER, DRAW UP THE HANDKERCHIEF, AND THE WATER
WILL REMAIN UPON THE SODA, BUT WILL NOT MIX WITH IT.

HERE'S HOW TO DOUBLE YOUR
MONEY! FILL A GLASS HALF
FULL OF WATER AND
DROP A COIN INTO IT.
THEN PLACE A
SAUCER ACROSS
THE TOP OF THE
GLASS. NOW
TURN THEM UP-
SIDE DOWN SO
THAT THE GLASS
IS STANDING
UPSIDE DOWN
ON THE SAUCER...

LOOK DOWN INTO THE
WATER IN THE GLASS
AND YOU WILL SEE
TWO COINS
INSTEAD OF
ONE!

AND NOW, AN UNCANNY
EXPERIMENT IN SOUND! LET
A FRIEND HOLD THE MOUTH OF A
MILK BOTTLE ABOUT HALF AN
INCH AWAY FROM HIS EAR. NOW
BLOW HARD ACROSS THE TOP
OF ANOTHER MILK BOTTLE
UNTIL A STRONG CLEAR
TONE IS PRODUCED. YOUR
FRIEND WILL BE ABLE TO
HEAR THE SAME TONE
INSIDE HIS BOTTLE!



THE REFLECTION OF THE WATER IN THE HALF FILLED
GLASS, AS WELL AS THE BENDING OF THE LIGHT
RAYS ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, ACCOUNTS
FOR THE ILLUSION OF THE EXTRA COIN

THE SOUND VIBRATIONS SET UP BY POPPO HAVE STARTED A
MOVEMENT OF AIR WHICH CAUSES IDENTICAL VIBRATIONS
IN THE OTHER BOTTLE, BRINGING THE SAME TONE
TO BUMPY'S EAR.

TENTFUL of TRICKS

NUMBER
2

LET'S PLACE AN EGG LOOSELY INTO AN EGG CUP IN FRONT OF ANOTHER EGG CUP. IF I BLOW ON THE EGG, IT GETS CHILLY, AND JUMPS INTO THE OTHER CUP... IMAGINE THAT!

I HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT YET HOW TO TURN IRON INTO GOLD, KIDS, BUT I CAN TURN AN ORDINARY WRIST OR POCKET WATCH INTO A COMPASS!

WHOOO! BRRRR

ACTUALLY, POPPO BLOWS INTO THE SPACE BETWEEN THE EGG AND THE CUP. AS THIS COMPRESSED AIR MOVES UNDER THE EGG, IT IS FORCED UPWARDS. WITH PRACTICE, AND HARD BLOWING, IT IS POSSIBLE TO MAKE THE EGG JUMP OUT, AND INTO THE OTHER CUP.

HERE'S A GOOD WAY TO GUESS A FRIEND'S AGE, PROVIDED HE IS OVER TEN! ASK HIM TO ADD 9 TO HIS AGE. NOW HAVE HIM CROSS OFF THE FIRST DIGIT FROM THE RESULT, ADD IT TO THE REMAINING TWO DIGITS AND GIVE YOU THE ANSWER! YOU CAN GIVE HIM HIS EXACT AGE!

6 7
8
2 5 1
3

JUST ADD 9 TO THE ANSWER, AND YOU HAVE HIS CORRECT AGE.

TICK
TICK
TICK

POINT THE HOUR HAND IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SUN. THEN HALFWAY BETWEEN THE HOUR HAND AND 12 IS SOUTH. FROM THERE ON, YOU CAN ESTABLISH THE REST OF YOUR DIRECTIONS.

TENTFUL of TRICKS

HERE, KIDS, IS A MYSTIFYING CARD TRICK WITH WHICH YOU CAN BAFFLE ALL YOUR FRIENDS! TAKE A DECK OF CARDS AND HAVE A FRIEND PICK ONE WITHOUT SHOWING IT TO YOU! PLACE THE CARD ON THE BOTTOM OF THE DECK—THEN CUT THE CARDS! STARTING AT THE TOP, YOU CAN NOW GLANCE THROUGH THE DECK AND EASILY PICK OUT THE CARD HE CHOSE!

NUMBER
3

HERE'S HOW!

POPPO HAS GLANCED AT THE BOTTOM CARD AND KNOWS WHAT IT IS. THE CARD SELECTED BY HIS FRIEND IS PLACED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE DECK, AND THUS FOLLOWS THE CARD WHICH POPPO HAS SEEN. AFTER CUTTING THE DECK, HE IS EASILY ABLE TO SELECT THE CHOSEN CARD.

NOW A STUNT YOU CAN ALWAYS WIN AT—PROVIDED YOU KNOW HOW! PLACE 16 TOOTHPICKS ON THE TABLE NEXT TO EACH OTHER. THEN CHALLENGE A FRIEND TO TAKE TURNS WITH YOU IN PICKING UP 1, 2, OR 3 TOOTHPICKS AT A TIME FROM THE TABLE! YOUR FRIEND WILL ALWAYS GET LEFT WITH THE LAST TOOTHPICK!

HO! HO!

LET'S TRY ANOTHER NUMBERS TRICK, KIDS! TAKE A NUMBER, ADD 7, DOUBLE IT, ADD 16, DOUBLE IT AGAIN, DIVIDE BY 4 AND SUBTRACT 16. YOUR ANSWER IS THE SAME NUMBER YOU STARTED WITH!

IF YOU GO FIRST, TAKE 3 TOOTHPICKS, LEAVING 13. ON YOUR NEXT TURN, LEAVE 9, THEN 5 TOOTHPICKS, THEN 1. EVEN IF YOUR OPPONENT STARTS FIRST, YOU SHOULD STILL BE ABLE TO LEAVE GROUPS OF 13, 9 AND 5 FOR HIM TO DRAW FROM.

THE DOUBLING, DIVIDING, ADDING AND SUBTRACTING EQUAL OUT, AND YOU HAVE REALLY DONE NOTHING TO CHANGE THE ORIGINAL NUMBER.

KIDS!

See and hear me every week

ON T.V.

Tune in

Poppo

"THE POPCORN THEATRE"

a full hour of fun with POPPO, cartoons,
comedies and adventure!

LOOK IN YOUR LOCAL PAPER FOR TIME AND STATION

IT TOOK JUST ONE
APPEARANCE FOR

POPPO

TO BECOME
AMERICA'S MOST
BELOVED FUNNYMAN!

POPPO



READ
EVERY ISSUE.
RESERVE YOUR
COPY NOW,
OF THE ONLY FULL
SIZE FUNNYBOOK
APPEARING
WEEKLY!

HE CAN MAKE YOU LAUGH TILL YOUR SIDES ACHE,
YET AT THE NEXT SECOND DRAIN SYMPATHETIC
TEARS FROM YOUR EYES!

Haib Poulin of H.C.C.
March 2, 1955
Book 8
7C 44

